

computer network;

providing a first access to the database for determining the bed availability information by the user of the database; and

inputting a medical condition of the user to determine the bed availability for the user with the medical condition.

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Please replace Claim 14 with the following:

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14. A system for storing and accessing bed availability information to a user wherein the bed availability includes information for a plurality of healthcare facilities wherein each of the plurality of healthcare facilities has a plurality of beds and receives a patient if a bed is available, the system comprising:

a computer network;

a database associated with the computer network;

means for inputting bed availability information of a plurality of healthcare facilities into the database;

means for accessing the bed availability information and retrieving the bed availability information from the database via the computer network; and

means for inputting information about the patient into a form via the computer network wherein the information about the patient is stored in the database.

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A copy of Claims 1-20 as originally filed:

1. A method for providing bed availability information on a computer network, the method comprising the steps of:  
    providing a database;  
    inputting bed availability information for a plurality of healthcare facilities having beds; and  
    providing a first access to the database for finding the bed availability information by a user of the database.
2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
    providing the database on the network wherein access to the database is via the network.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the network is the internet.
4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
    contacting one of the healthcare facilities after retrieving information about the healthcare facility.
5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
    providing a remote server; and  
    storing the database on the remote server.
6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
    providing a second access to the database wherein an extended care or a healthcare facility having beds enters the bed availability information into the database via the second access.
7. The method of Claim 1 wherein an individual healthcare facility accesses the database to input the bed availability information for the individual healthcare facility.

8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the bed availability information includes a quantity of empty beds available.
9. The method of Claim 1 wherein the bed availability information includes types of empty beds available.
10. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
providing an internet-enabled form on a website for  
accessing the remote database and inputting information into the  
database.
11. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
searching the database for the bed availability information;  
and  
matching healthcare facility criteria with patient needs.
12. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
entering individual information related to a medical  
condition of a patient; and  
searching the database based on the individual information  
for the bed availability information.
13. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
providing a search engine for searching the database.
14. A system for storing and accessing bed availability  
information for a plurality of healthcare facilities, the system  
comprising:  
a computer network;  
a database associated with the network;  
means for inputting bed availability information of a

plurality of healthcare facilities into the database; and

means for accessing the bed availability information and retrieving the bed availability information from the database.

15. The system of Claim 14 wherein the bed availability information includes a quantity of beds available.

16. The system of Claim 14 wherein the bed availability information includes types of beds available.

17. The system of Claim 14 wherein the bed availability information includes a projection of expected availability of beds at a facility in a specified time frame.

18. The system of Claim 14 further comprising:

a remote server wherein the database is contained on the remote server; and

a website providing access to the database.

19. The system of Claim 14 further comprising:

means for accessing the database wherein an individual healthcare facility enters the bed availability into the database.

20. The system of Claim 14 further comprising:

means for searching the database for the bed availability information of healthcare facilities.